



NEWS RELEASE

*Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska*
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February 20, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, Nebraska State Patrol, and the Lancaster County Attorney's Office announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release: On February 20, 2009, a Lincoln man was sentenced to 10 years and one month, (121 months), in prison for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine, and marijuana. Information provided to law enforcement indicated that Samuel Turner was responsible for the distribution of at least 18 ounces of methamphetamine and smaller amounts of cocaine and marijuana over an approximate 18-month time period in Lincoln. On three occasions in the summer of 2008, a confidential informant working with the Nebraska State Patrol bought methamphetamine from a third party in amounts ranging from 1/8 of an ounce to 1/4 ounce. On those occasions, the third party was observed by surveillance officers going to Turner's residence before making the sales to the confidential informant. Following the prison term, Turner will serve five years on supervised release. He was also ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment.

Name of Defendant: Samuel B. Turner

AKA: Sam Turner

Age: 41

City of residence: Lincoln

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance; a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II controlled substance; and a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of marijuana, a Schedule I controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846. The possible penalty is not less than 10 years nor more than life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$4,000,000. Following any term of imprisonment, there would be a term of

supervised release of not less than five years. There is also a \$100 special assessment.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Lincoln

Location of Arrest: Lincoln

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: Turner was held responsible for the distribution of at least 500 grams of methamphetamine (approximately 18 ounces), at least 25 grams of cocaine (slightly less than an ounce), and at least 250 grams of marijuana, (approximately 9 ounces).

Others Charged in Same Scheme: none

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: Between on or about February 1, 2007, and on or about August 31, 2008;

Federal Arrest Date: September 18, 2008

Date Complaint Issued:

Indictment Returned Date: September 16, 2008

Initial Appearance Date: September 19, 2008

Plea or Trial and Date(s): Pled guilty on December 4, 2008

Sentencing Date: February 20, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: none

Assigned Magistrate Judge: The Honorable David L. Piester

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: held without bond

In Continuous Custody Since: September 18, 2008

Assigned District Court Judge: The Honorable Richard G. Kopf

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: SEF